

FROM: University Relations
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FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

The University of Toledo's Board of Trustees today (Tuesday, February 10) authorized Dr. William S. Carlson, president of the University, to enter into an agreement with the State of Ohio for the use of a 98.33 acre tract of land on Kelley's Island for a proposed research and instructional program on the immediate problems of conservation and human ecology in the Lake Erie Island chain.

Ecology is the study of the total relationship between man and his environment and involves the study of historical as well as current inhabitants of a given area.

The University proposes to establish a Lake Erie Islands Ecological Center on Kelley's Island beginning next summer, which would initially involve students and faculty of the departments of geography, geology, and sociology and anthropology. The Center's research and instructional program will try to define problems of conservation and ecology, and will eventually draw on University archaeologists, biologists, historians, economists and other specialists for contributions.

Last summer (1969), the University's departments of geography and of sociology and anthropology conducted a joint field program and general survey of four of the Lake Erie islands, including Kelley's Island and the land described in the agreement.

The tract, which is near but not a part of the existing Kelley's Island State Park, is located on the northern tip of the island and includes a shoreline of about 2,750 feet. It is within the Village of Kelley's Island, Erie County, Ohio, adjacent to a 3.31 acre tract which the state has deeded to the Ohio Historical Society.

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The agreement now will be returned to Columbus for the signatures of Fred E. Morr, director of the Department of Natural Resources; Norville L. Hall, chief of the Division of Parks and Recreation; Attorney General Paul Brown; and Governor James A. Rhodes.

Members of the University's faculty active in the development of plans and proposals for the Ecological Center include Earl J. Prah1, instructor in anthropology; Dr. Lloyd J. Charlesworth, Jr., assistant professor in geology and director of the University's Subsurface Data Processing Center; Dr. Donald W. Lewis, associate professor of geography, and Dr. Robert N. Basile, professor of geography.

The agreement specifies the nature and limitations of the use to which the University may put the land, and requires that the University provide the state with copies of research papers, field notes, photographs, sketches, surveys and other documents resulting from the Center's activity.

Cultural and historical materials found are to be retained on the island and preserved and displayed by the Ohio Historical Society "for the benefit of the people of Ohio."

The agreement is for an indefinite period.